THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (f). The number of proposals involving NRI investment approved by Government during the last 2 years is as under :

Year	No.	Amount
1994	167	Rs. 489.34 Crores
1995	139	Rs. 709.59 Crores

The investment proposal are in sectors like hotel, hospitals, textile, tourism related industries, electronics and service sectors.

The areawise details of investment proposed is not centrally maintained. The details regarding projectwise commencement of production is not centrally available.

Defaulting in Export Obligation

2692. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether many leading Export Houses and Trading Houses are defaulting in export obligation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to check such defaults on exports and to simplify the export documentation process for speedy clearance of export commodity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. As per available information, of the total number of 3036 Export Houses/Trading Houses, only 32 are found to be defaulting in completing within time, the Export obligation imposed against various licences such as duty exemption licences, EPCG licences, Industrial Licences/Foreign Collaboration approvals etc. Out of these 32 defaulters, none have defaulted against the EPCG Scheme. Only 7 have defaulted against Industrial Licences/Foreign Collaboration approvals and 25 have defaulted against duty exemption licences.

(c) Regular monitoring of individual Schemes is done to ensure prompt fulfilment of export obligation. In certain difficult cases extension of time is also allowed to enable the licence holders to fulfil their export obligation. Action is also taken against defaulters under Foreign Trade, Development & Regulation Act, 1992. Simplification of export documentation is a continuous process and is done in consultation with various Apex Trade Bodies.

Collaboration with Australia in Coal Mining

2693. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to have Joint Venture with Australia for technical co-operation in underground coal mining; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Trade with Israel

2694. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total volume of trade between India and Israel transacted at present;

(b) whether Israel has already emerged as a major trading partner with India standing next to United States;

(c) the details of areas in which India and Israel are improving the trade;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up Indo-Israeli Chambers of Commerce at Hyderabad; and

(e) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The total trade between India and Israel during 1995-96 was Rs. 1506.52 crores.

(b) No, Sir. Israel's share in India's global trade during 1995-96 was about 0.7% only.

(c) Our major exports to Israel are gems & jewellery, cotton and manmade textiles, cashew, coffee, organic/inorganic/basic chemicals, engineering goods, etc. Our main imports from Israel are fertilizers, pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, organic/inorganic chemicals, machinery, project goods, petroleum products, etc.

(d) and (e). There is no proposal at present with the Ministry of Commerce to set up an Indo-Israel Chamber of Commerce at Hyderabad.

Stock Investment Scheme

2695. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any investigation into the operation of the stock invest scheme has since been carried out;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the irregularities in the operation of the stock-investment scheme is still continuing;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to hold the management of the public and private sector banks responsible for any lapse rather than the employees; and

(f) if not, the justification thereof?